

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SY-05 AID-05 SCCT-01 IO-10 EB-07 /091 W

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R 021303Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3921

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 3885

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJ: PMAC REPORTS DISSIDENTS KILLED IN SHOOTOUT

1. ETHIOPIAN HERALD OF APRIL 1 IN FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE ANNOUNCED FIVE CILILIANS WERE KILLED WHILE RESISTING ARREST IN CONNECTION WITH "SERIES OF ARMED ROBBERIES IN ADDIS ABABA" AND TWO OTHERS CAPTURED. INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN MERHABETE DISTRICT OF SHOA PROVINCE ON MARCH 7.

2. THE SEVEN "CRIMINALS" ARE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN PLOT AGAINST "THE ETHIOPIAN POPULAR MOVEMENT" AND OF HAVING COMMITTED A SERIES OF ARMED ROBBERIES IN ADDIS ABABA FROM FEBRUARY 15 TO MARCH 5 BY POSING AS GOVERNMENT SECURITY MEN AND DRIVING VEHICLES WITH "FORGED" POLICE AND ARMY PLATES. STATEMENT ALLEGES THAT THE SEVEN IN LEAGUE WITH OTHER REACTIONARY ELEMENTS, INCLUDING THE BESHIE BROTHERS (TWO OF WHOM WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECENTLY KILLED WHILE THIRD REMAINS IN CUSTODY) AS WELL AS LT.

COL. ASRATE BOGALE AND AMARE IJIGU, WHO HIJACKED POLICE PLANE TO DJIBOUTI ON MARCH 6.

3. STATEMENT REPORTS THAT THE SEVEN COLLECTED FIREARMS AT GUNPOINT FROM CIVILIANS IN ADDIS ABABA AND DROVE TO TOWN OF ALEM KETTEMA, WHERE THEY DEFIED ROUTINE POLICE SEARCH REQUEST AND OPENED FIRE ON POLICE.

4. BEKELE SEYOUM, GRAZMATCH ESHETE YIMAM, TILAHUN YIGEZU, WODEJANEH HABTE-WOLD AND LEBEZA WERE KILLED AND SGT. ADINEW BEYENE AND KIFLE MOGUS WERE CAPTURED BY POLICE "WITH HELP OF TOWNSPEOPLE." TWO GOVERNMENTALS WOUNDED IN SHOOTOUT.

5. STATEMENT CONTINUES WITH ASSERTION THAT COL. ASRATE (OF SHOA POLICE), REALIZING PLOT HAD BEEN FOILED, HIJACKED POLICE PLANE WITH HIS ACCOMPLICE AND LANDED IN DJIBOUTI WITH E\$17,340 OF MERHABETE POLICE PAYROLL. THE TWO HIJACKERS, ARTICLE STATES, ARE PRESENTLY IN CUSTODY IN DJIBOUTI AND AUTHORITIES ARE DISCUSSING THEIR EXTRADITION.
HUMMEL

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